

Census Survey Explorer

Q: Ordinarily how old or new is the Data and what is the Sample Set ?

A: The availability and currency of the data varies by program. You can use CSE to learn about how often a dataset is released and the period it is available for-

Q: How can we find out about dogs and cats? Is that ACS? It's not asked in the decennial census?

A: You can use CSE to determine if the Census Bureau has data on a particular topic- The ACS does not collect information on pets/household animals-

Q: How would One Health researchers (the sorts of OneHealth researchers featured in NASEM webinars) be able to find useful data on human exposures to nonhuman animal hosts

A: These data is not available from our datasets. I would recommend that you contact the CDC-

Q: Is anyone else having audio issues?

A: Sounds clear here. Perhaps switch how you connected your audio.
[https://help.webex.com/en-us/article/871cgu/Switch-your-audio-during-Webex-Meetings,-Webex-Webinars,-or-Webex-Events-\(classic\)](https://help.webex.com/en-us/article/871cgu/Switch-your-audio-during-Webex-Meetings,-Webex-Webinars,-or-Webex-Events-(classic))

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Q: Regarding State Legislative Districts as a geography. How long does it take Census to redo districts after a state finalizes its redistricting maps?

A: The collection of new congressional and state legislative districts occurs every two years. This collection requires the Census Bureau to collect and verify every state's, Puerto Rico's, and the District of Columbia's districts prior to moving these new boundaries into our data products. We are currently in the process of collecting the boundaries for the 118th Congress and the 2022 state legislative district election cycle. We anticipate geographic products representing these new districts to begin flowing from the Census Bureau in December of 2022. Data products and additional geographic products will also be produced and published in 2023

Q: Are shapefiles available?

A: You can visit TigerWeb for our shapefiles:
https://tigerweb.geo.census.gov/tigerwebmain/TIGERweb_apps.html

Q: Is there information on E-commerce?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: Where can I find data on firm size?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Can I find data on Fertility?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

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Q: Can I find data on Disability?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: Do the surveys have data on year moved in?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: Does the Census Bureau have data on wildlife?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: what is the website to find this on? What is the URL?

A: <https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/survey-explorer/>

Q: Do you have data on Childcare?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: Do you have Home Value data?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: Do you have surveys available with business owner's data?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

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Q: Do you have information on Grants?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Why is Permits listed twice under Subtopics? There are no additional words for either topic.

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Where are those Decennial employees today?

A: Block group is only available for decennial and ACS datasets (5-year estimates). You can use data.census.gov or census.gov/api-

Q: How do you look for data available by block group? Geographies does not include tracts block groups nor blocks

A: Under the Geography Dropdown menu select “Other”. If you go to the geographies tab in the tool, you will see may geographies under other including Tracts, Block Groups, and Blocks.

Q: if you go to census.gov, is there a button to click on to get there directly?

A: No. Go to the Survey’s and Programs page and there is a link to the tool on the left menu and the right menu. Or go to Data Tools page and it is listed in there in the alphabetical list.

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Q: The most elusive Data I've been searching for is "Psychological or Mental Health by Industry and Sub-Industry" ... Can you Help!

A: You can search for any topic using CSE. However, we do not have mental health data by industry.

Q: Is there a way to see *all the data* about a city or county - to see what the scope is of what's available?

A: If you select "city" (place or county subdivision), the system will show you all the program that provide data for the city level.

Q: Is this webinar being recorded?

A: In case you were wondering, the webinar recording and slides will be available within about 2-3 weeks, here:

<https://www.census.gov/data/academy/webinars/2022/how-to-find-which-surveys-have-the-data-you-need.html>

Q: Are there implied boolean 'OR' or 'AND' operators between search words separated by spaces? Are quote marks effective in identifying a search phrase?

A: They are treated as individual search tokens.

Q: I'm on Census Survey Explorer but the search bar produces no results for me. Can you only filter?.

A: You can use both but if you got zero results back then no surveys met your criteria. You may need to change your search term or phrase. The search bar has limited capabilities. Use the Topics and Subtopics menu for guidance on terms to use. Try taking the "s" of words. When you can, use root words.

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Q: So the explorer doesn't include any ACS data tables?

A: It does not search for a table. The purpose of CSE is to allow you to figure out what topics, geographies and availability exists for data within our programs. Once you learn this, you can visit our data tools, such as data.census.gov, to search for the tables. -

Q: Has there been any thoughts of adding other non-Census, federal government data to the tool, such as from the BLS or NCES? I like this UI and would love to have a centralized place for all government surveys that uses this UI.

A: That is a great suggestion. We will share it with our leadership.

Q: Does it let you search by NAICS code? thank you

A: You can't search by NAICS code, but if you type NAICS in the search bar or select NAICS as a subtopic, then surveys which use NAICS codes will show up.- <https://www.census.gov/naics/>

Q: If I know I want a survey that reviews Food Stamp/SNAP data, but don't know which surveys will, how do I use the filters to generate reports?

A: If you search on food stamp in the search bar or select food stamp as a category in the subtopics, you'll see surveys that pop up for you. -

Q: Where can I find Veteran Statistics?

A: Please select/check the veteran within the subtopic menu or use the search bar and type veteran..

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Q: Are the data types 'characteristics'? What do we call the type of information in these categories?

A: Search by a characteristic such a "race", "age", etc.

Q: Does Tribal Areas include ANCSA (Alaska Native) Corporations?

A: Yes

Q: Re the origins list - I am aware that some of the old Census data - early 20th C, list Jewish.. Is there a way to get data on the keywords Jews or Jewish? I was looking at early 20th C Jewish immigration data

A: We do not collect data on religion. You can look at data for foreign born population by country of birth.

Q: This is a huge help! But once I find the survey I want, how do I use the data to answer a question?

A: The tool you will be using to access the data depends on what survey your data is from. For instance, if it is available through the ACS, you can go to data.census.gov to access the data. If you are looking for data about workers, it could be from a variety of surveys (CPS, ACS, admin records, LEHD). There are a few tools that will let you get to the data for each of these surveys.-

Q: Looking for Education and County. I got 7 surveys, does this sound right?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

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Q: Which one is a correct phrase American Indian or Native American from view of cultural competency?

A: I think that Mary was referring to the official surveys for these populations, which you can learn about here: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/about/partnerships/aian.html>

"Both terms are generally acceptable, according to the [National Museum of the American Indian](#) (NMAI), a Smithsonian institution based in both New York and Washington, D.C. "In the United States, Native American has been widely used but is falling out of favor with some groups, and the terms American Indian or Indigenous American are preferred by many Native people," a FAQ on the museum site explains." Source [Native American vs American Indian: Understanding the Difference \(oprahdaily.com\)](#)

Q: county/demographics/education 6 surveys?

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

Q: So, does the Government have all sorts of data on all (or most) of us?

A: Yes

Q: Is this the correct answer to the exercise? 8

A: This question has been answered verbally.-

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Q: Exercise answer 8

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Is veterans found in topic or Subtopic?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Is this the right answer to the exercise? 8?

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Exercise answer 8

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Yep, 8 is still correct!

A: This question has been answered verbally.

Q: Is there a way to suggest surveys to consider adding? This is a great tool - thanks for including surveys from other departments.

A: yes, you can – contact mary.w.leisenring@census.gov

Q: Is there a way you can demonstrate opening one of the surveys and accessing the data?

A: There are numerous ways to access data depending on the survey. Please go to [Census.gov/academy](https://census.gov/academy) to look for content that would help you (webinars, data gems, and courses)

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Q: How granular is demographic data for LOCAL nonprofits that offer tailored services to local residents?

A: The explorer really just gets you started with a search for data.

A: You would find out which survey contains the data you're interested in and then use data.census.gov for a deeper dive-

A: It will depend on whether you are looking for data about "organizations/business" or about the people who live in the area being served. If it is about people, you can go to the block level using decennial census data; and to the block group using ACS.-

Q: How is the data stored? csv files etc?

A: The metadata for each survey in the CSE tool is stored in a database that feeds the tool through an API. How the data collected from the survey is stored would be a question for the survey or program you are interested in.

Q: Are there plans to develop a variable-level tool similar to CSE?

A: For this, use data.census.gov

Q: Will the slides and recording of webinar be available?

A: In case you were wondering, the webinar recording and slides will be available within about 2-3 weeks, here:

<https://www.census.gov/data/academy/webinars/2022/how-to-find-which-surveys-have-the-data-you-need.html>-

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Q: The Decennial Census ONCE had asked questions about household dogs (but not cats), then the question was dropped. Any comments on finding data on household companion animals?

A: This could have been a question available on a local/town/city census. We only ask questions that are required to fulfil a federal requirement for program, services and funding.

Q: TROUBLESHOOT: My search did not reset between the examples you asked us to try. How do I clear the search results when that happens?

A: There is a button labeled “reset search.” It is the one all the way to the right.

Q: Can you select data that only as shapefiles ?

A: All Census geographies have published shapefiles available for them. You can get started here:-

A: <https://www2.census.gov/>

A: <https://www2.census.gov/geo/tiger/>

Q: I can't see where to select a topic. When I click on topics and subtopics, it gives me a help document but not a link to see the list

A: There are two lists for subtopics and topics. One list is on the Subtopic and Topics guidance support page. However, you can only actually select or check off topics and subtopics from the dropdown menus (click on the carrot/arrows to open) tool i.e. the tool's homepage.

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Q: We've done analysis using PUMS data. Any tips on that?

A: Decennial Census and ACS are used to create PUMS data.

Q: Are there APIs available to access data for use programmatically?

A: We have several APIs at www.census.gov/api

Q: Do you have a link on the gem to post that we can cut-n-paste

A: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy/data-gems/2022/finding-data-with-census-survey-explorer.html>

Q: What surveys do you have in health information. Cancer, covid, HIV, cardiovascular, etc.

A: Under subtopics dropdown, select "health".

Q: Could you just show me how to find it?

A: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy/data-gems/2022/finding-data-with-census-survey-explorer.html>

Q: I am completely lost. Can you help me?

A: If you go to the home page (<https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/survey-explorer/index.html>) and then next to the search bar, you'll see buttons for topics, geographies, etc, which will open up a menu for you to select.

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Q: Does the census track asthma rates or any public health information?

A: Select health from the subtopics dropdown to view surveys that collect health data. NHIS (we partner with NCHS for this survey) may be the best bet for this. Also check with NCHS and CDC.

Q: How do I tell when someone moved into a residence?

A: Select “tenure” and “housing”. But we wouldn’t offer this data for a specific address. Try table B25038 in data.census.gov

Q: If you find conflicting data (if a geography is urban- rural, for instance) is there a good way to determine which is more accurate?

A: Go to our geography site [Geography Program \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/geography) and review the guidance for geography.

Q: Why do you not collect data on religion as part of demographics?

A: We can only ask questions (collect data) that are federally required for programs, services, and funding. Religion is not required for these purposes.

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Q: Where can I find LGBTQ data?

A: You would look for "same sex" for LG data

Q: I don't see a search bar anywhere. When I click on Topics and Subtopics, it's just a help page. How to I get to the list of the topics? This is all going too fast without showing us in detail

A: The search bar is on the home page of the tool, not on the Topics and Subtopics page.

Q: How do you change the age range of the fertility data?

A: This is not a data tool. In data.census.gov the fertility is sorted by age groups.

Q: Can you share a technical document on how the tool was built?

A: We can share a deck with you. Send me an email with the request: askdata@census.gov

Q: Every time I select COVID-19 in subtopics it goes to showing no surveys. Are there no COVID-19 surveys available?

A: Try clearing your search with the "Reset Search" button, and then select COVID-19 from the subtopics or searching up COVID-19 in the search bar.

A: For me, the Household Pulse and Small Business Pulse survey show up. Bear in mind that we have a COVID site with data available from multiple surveys..
[US Census Bureau COVID-19 Site](#)

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Q: There is nothing in the search bar, I did use the drop downs there are just multiple surveys listed that won't go away. (as in excess of twenty, not sure if they are repeating. I have cleared the browser, selected home, nothing in the search bar, just listing of surveys from the initial searches.

A: You might need to reset your search by clicking the "Reset Search" button which will get rid of any filters that you have on the tool.

Q: So the topics show us what surveys are available but when we go to the survey do we re-enter those parameters? How will we find what we need when we go to that particular survey

A: This is the next step in the process, but there is no one answer. Many Census Bureau programs/surveys have a link to a data page where you will discover where data is located for that survey. Data from a survey could be in one or more data tools, tables, or reports. Many surveys that are sponsored by other agencies, have their own webpages for exploring data. Census Academy has many webinars, courses, and tutorials to explore that share tips on how to use data tools or find data from a certain survey or find data on a particular topic. Lastly, we shared the census.askdata@census.gov contact info if you need further assistance.

Q: Are there classes that will show you how to access the data from each survey?

A: On the Census Academy, you can find general classes on how to use data from surveys: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy.html>-

A: You can find many courses, data gems, and webinars on Census Academy. You can also go to Census Academy to request a training for your organization/group on any topic-

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Q: If I am looking for the economic data such as pay and how many people are employed in a specific industry of a specific industry, which search is most effective since it is so specific. We are looking for rate of pay for data cabling employees and we wanted to know how many companies in Texas there are

A: In the tool check NAICS and employment subtopics to find relevant surveys. You need to look up the NAICS code for this particular industry once you go to look for the data. <https://www.census.gov/naics/>

Q: We are looking specifically for the data you have Electrical Contractors. Can you direct me?

A: We don't have that data. We have electrical industry data. Use the tool to find surveys that have NAICS subtopic. <https://www.census.gov/naics/>

Q: Once you have identified a survey that you would like to use, how do you open the data?

A: Different surveys have different ways to access the data. A good start is to go to data.census.gov-

Q: Is there a tutorial on how to use Airtable and download the data?

A: We don't offer the data through Airtable.

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Q: You mentioned the importance of identifying the correct name of the survey users are looking for. If one gets stuck identifying this, is "ASK data line" or "census ask data" appropriate to ask for assistance?

A: Yes. The CSE tool is a great place to start to look for the survey name you need.

Q: I am working with a group of people that are not internet savvy. Is there a user friendly way to pass on the best use of this tool to drill down on data. I am not sure if this can drill down like an IBIS World

A: Here is a video walkthrough which covers how to use the tool that you can pass along: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy/data-gems/2022/finding-data-with-census-survey-explorer.html> From there you will need to explore where data is found for that survey. Census Academy has many videos demonstrating topics and tools. You can also use census.askdata@census.gov as a resource.

Q: I still cannot get any surveys to show when I select COVID-19. What should I do?

A: You need to select reset search to remove past filters you may have selected.

Q: I tried City/Town and Housing and got descriptions of surveys but not links to any surveys. What can I do to get to the survey?

A: Click on the survey name and it will take you to the survey's page.

Q: How do Wikipedians USE ACS and other Census data (for making statis and dynamic charts, for gathering data, etc.)??

A: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy/data-gems/2022/finding-data-with-census-survey-explorer.html>

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Q: I've never used this data. It would be REALLY helpful to have a sample fully-worked example going from an idea to downloading a dataset. Is there a video with such an example going thin but deep all the way though to getting the dataset?

A: <https://www.census.gov/data/academy/data-gems/2022/finding-data-with-census-survey-explorer.html> There are more data gems on how to download data at [census.gov/academy](https://www.census.gov/academy)

-Q: Do you have any adoption information?

A: I would start with the subtopic “Children” and dive in deeper from there. You can also add the selection “housing” DP02 in data.census.gov social housing characteristics may give you this data. SIPP? Children of the householder.... Relation?

Q: If this tool only helps with identifying topics, is Census providing data, APIs, etc. to data.gov for others to use in creating good user interfaces?

A: Yes! For APIs: [census.gov/developers-](https://www.census.gov/developers-)

Q: Do employees of the Census department collect the data for these surveys or is outsourced to other parties to collect the data?

A: Census Employees collect data.

Q: I tried to search for Indiana. Do you think it is accurate that there may not be any data available from Indiana?

A: This question has been answered verbally.- you would search for state level data to find surveys that collect that data. This tool does not take you to data.

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Q: Just to confirm: when typing a search term, are multiple words are treated as a phrase?

A: They (each word) are treated as individual search tokens.

Q: Can you get me much data on Seller and Buyers of Bonny Light Crude Oil?

A: We have industry level data and import and export data. Check NAICS code for this industry and use the tool to find surveys that offer data by NAICS codes.
<https://www.census.gov/naics/>
